

Message Text

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ACTION OES-06

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 FEA-01 AID-05 CEQ-01 CIAE-00
ERDA-07 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 EPA-04 INR-07 IO-13
L-03 NSF-02 NSC-05 NSAE-00 PM-04 USIA-15 SS-15 SP-02
INT-05 PA-02 PRS-01 AGRE-00 /116 W
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R 152310Z DEC 76
FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9208

UNCLAS MEXICO 15760

PASS EPA FOR FITZHUGH GREEN

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SENV, MX
SUBJ:INDUSTRIAL WASTE WATER CAUSING INCREASING POLLUTION

1. WATER POLLUTION WAS THE SUBJECT OF AN ARTICLE IN THE "EXCELSIOR" OF DEC. 7, WHICH PROMPTED STRONG EDITORIAL COMMENT IN THE SAME EDITION.

2. THE ARTICLE SAYS THAT, ACCORDING TO STUDIES CARRIED OUT BY THE DEPT. OF WATER UTILIZATION AND PREVENTION OF CONTAMINATION (WITHIN THE SECRETARIAT OF HYDRAULIC RESOURCES) "THE ANNUAL DISCHARGE OF WASTE WATER - 2.34 MILLION CUBIC METERS FROM INDUSTRY AND 31 MILLION CUBIC METERS FROM AGRICULTURE - INTO RIVERS, LAKES AND LAGOONS, MIXED WITH GREASE AND OIL FROM UNDERWATER OIL DRILLING HAVE MADE THE PROBLEM OF CONTAMINATION IN THE GULF OF MEXICO ALARMING."

3. IT GOES ON TO SAY THAT THE WORST POLLUTION IS FOUND NEAR ACAPULCO, ZIHUATANEJO, AND MAZATLAN. ALSO AFFECTED SERIOUSLY ARE THE FOLLOWING RIVER BASINS: PANUCO, LERMA, BALSAS, BLANCO, GUAYALEJO, SAN JUAN CULIACAN, FUERTE, COAHUAYANA, NAZAS, AND CONCHOS. THE BASINS OF THESE RIVERS CONTAIN 59 PERCENT OF THE INDUSTRY AND 42 PERCENT OF THE POPULATION OF THE COUNTRY.

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4. BOTH THE ARTICLE AND THE EDITORIAL POINT OUT THE

DANGER THIS PROBLEM CREATES FOR THE TOURISM AND FISHING
INDUSTRIES AND URGE A MORE RIGOROUS MONITORING SYSTEM.

5. VIZCAINO-MURRAY AND DR. EDUARDO ECHEVERRIA ALVAREZ
HAVE BEEN REPLACED AS UNDERSECRETARY FOR ENVIRONMENTAL
IMPROVEMENT AND TECHNICAL COUNCIL PRESIDENT, RESPECTIVELY,
BY ING. UMBERTO ROMERO-ALVAREZ AND DR. BLANCA ORDONEZ.
EMBASSY UNDERSTANDS THAT NEW UNDERSECRETARY FOR ENVIRON-
MENTAL IMPROVEMENT IS IN PROCESS OF REORGANIZING
DEPARTMENT TO ENSURE MORE STRINGENT CONTROL OF WATER
RESOURCES AND OTHER POLLUTION PROBLEMS. DETAILS WILL
FOLLOW.

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Message Attributes

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